Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Four hundred and twenty young men known as 52-Charlie, United States Air Force pilot class, graduated on May 10, 1952, receiving their "Silver Pilot's Wings;" and,

Whereas, Many of these pilots flew combat missions in two major wars, Korea and Vietnam, as well as other strategic missions over Europe, North Africa, the North Atlantic and Artic areas, far exceeding 100,000 flying hours collectively; and,

Whereas, The 52-Charlie hailed from 45 states, and the five South Dakota members are proud to host this year's 55th Reunion on May 16-20, 2007, in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota with the headquarters at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel at Rapid City, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The reunion committee has a full schedule of activities planned for participants to consider, which include a tour of Crazy Horse Memorial, program and lighting ceremony at the Mount Rushmore Shrine of Democracy, and permanent placement of a plaque at the Black Hills National Cemetery to honor the 187 52-Charlie members who have passed away since graduation; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to commend 52-Charlie for their dedicated and outstanding service, which reflects the proud heritage of individual and patriotic accomplishments that are so much a way of life in the great state of South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 16-20, 2007, as

52-CHARLIE DAYS

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State